

Kentucky  
Department of  
Veterans Affairs



State and Federal  
Veteran Benefits  
Information

Issue 9

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## **KDVA: Serving Kentucky's Veterans**

The Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs (KDVA) was established 1 October 1998 when the first Commissioner was appointed. The Department is charged with helping veterans and their families obtain all federal, state and local veterans benefits to which they are entitled.

To that end, KDVA serves the veterans of the Commonwealth in three primary areas of support: healthcare, benefits, and cemetery operations. This structure parallels the US Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) administrative organization. Details concerning each of these major service areas, as well as many others, are included in this booklet.

KDVA is committed to fulfilling its mission to help veterans, their families and survivors obtain the benefits they have earned as veterans. Because of their dedicated and selfless service to our Commonwealth and nation, Kentucky's veterans deserve no less.

*"Serving those who have served the Commonwealth and our great Nation."*

## KDVA Contact Information

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Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs  
Office of the Commissioner  
1111B Louisville Road  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
Phone: (502) 564-9203  
Toll Free: (800) 572-6245  
FAX: (502) 564-9240



Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs  
Field Operations Branch  
321 W. Main St., Suite 390  
Louisville, KY 40202  
Phone: (502) 595-4447  
Toll Free: (800) 928-4012  
FAX: (502) 595-4448



Website:

[www.veterans.ky.gov](http://www.veterans.ky.gov)



## **FILING A CLAIM**

Whether you wish to file a claim for VA benefits, are seeking to use Kentucky Veterans Benefits, or simply want to learn more about state and federal benefits for veterans, KDVA strongly urges you to seek representation.

Don't go it alone. KDVA can help you.

Your KDVA Veterans Benefits Field Representative will help you complete the required VA forms and advise you on how to support your claim with other information the VA will need.

## **KDVA Field Offices**

KDVA's Veterans Benefits Field Representatives work in 21 offices across the state. They help veterans obtain the state and federal benefits they have earned. Please call the office nearest you for assistance.

### **Western Kentucky**

#### **Hanson Office**

(in Western Kentucky Veterans Center)  
926 Veterans Drive  
Hanson, KY 42413  
(270) 322-9087 (877) 662-0008  
FAX: (270) 322-9497

#### **Hopkinsville Office**

5817 Fort Campbell Blvd.  
Hopkinsville, KY 42240  
(270) 889-6105 (800) 928-9622  
FAX: (270) 889-6109

#### **Mayfield Office**

1253 Paris Rd., Suite A  
Mayfield, KY 42066  
(270) 247-2455 \*73906  
(866) 274-5761 X 53239  
FAX: (270) 247-7248

#### **Clarkson Office**

CBOC, 619 West Main Street  
Clarkson, KY 42746  
(502) 287-6414 (866) 653-8232  
FAX (270) 242-0359

### **West/Central Kentucky**

#### **Fort Knox Office**

1109B Spearhead Division Avenue  
P.O. Box 600  
Fort Knox, KY 40121  
(502) 799-0418 (866) 817-1360  
FAX: (502) 942-6086

#### **Glasgow Office**

126 East Public Square (Lower Level)  
Glasgow, KY 32141  
(270) 651-9578 (800) 850-1392  
FAX: (270) 651-7839

### **Central Kentucky**

#### **Lexington Office**

VAMC Leestown, 1101 Veterans Dr.  
Bldg 1 Rm 39  
Lexington, KY 40507  
(859) 281-3983 (877) 361-6844  
FAX: (859) 246-2886

#### **Wilmore Office**

(in Thomson-Hood Veterans Center)  
100 Veterans Drive  
Wilmore, KY 40390  
(859) 858-2814 (800) 928-4838  
FAX: (859) 858-4039



**Springfield Office**

1079 Highway 555  
Springfield, KY 40069  
(859) 336-0567 (800) 928-0951  
FAX: (859) 366-9750

**Southeastern Kentucky****London Office**

101 S. Main ST Rm. 324  
London, KY 40741  
606-330-2210 (855)-390-7565  
FAX (606)-330-2211

**Eastern Kentucky****Hazard Office**

(in Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center)  
200 Veterans Drive  
Hazard, KY 41701  
(606) 435-6196 (877) 856-0004  
FAX: (606) 435-6201

**Pikeville Office**

Pike County Courthouse  
146 Main St.  
Pikeville, KY 41501  
(606) 433-7522 (866) 647-2926  
FAX: (606) 433-7523

### **Northeastern Kentucky**

#### **Mount Sterling Office**

44 West Main St. Suite B

Mt. Sterling, KY 40353

(859) 497-6444

(866) 376-0308

FAX: (859) 497-6445

#### **Catlettsburg Office**

PO Box 1278

2800 Louisa Street

Catlettsburg, KY 41129

(606) 739-0273

(866) 244-8970

FAX: (606) 739-0328

### **Northern Kentucky**

#### **Williamstown Office**

101 N. Main Street, Rm. 19

Williamstown, KY 41097

(859) 824-0940

(800) 747-9963

FAX: (859) 824-0782

#### **Florence Office**

7129 Price Pike

Florence, KY 41042

(859) 282-8583

(855) 204-9676

FAX: (859) 828-8746

## **Louisville**

321 West Main St. Suite 390  
Louisville, KY 40202  
(502) 595-4447 (800) 928-4012  
FAX: (502) 595-4448

**Call Us — We Are Here to Help  
You**



## **Federal Veterans Benefits**

The surest way to obtain current information on US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits and claims procedures is to call the nearest VA regional office within the state.

**A call to (800) 827-1000 from any location in the United States will connect you to the nearest VA regional office.**

Counselors can answer questions about benefits eligibility and application procedures. They make referrals, when necessary, to other VA facilities, such as medical centers and national cemeteries.

VA regional offices process claims for VA benefits and administer those benefits, which include: disability compensation, pension, home loan guaranty, life insurance, education, vocational training, burial allowance, and survivor's compensation, pension and education.

VA medical center eligibility offices are the immediate source for information regarding medical care eligibility, admissions procedure and scheduling. They can provide information on all types of medical care, including dental, drug and alcohol dependency, prosthetics, and readjustment counseling. The Directors of the three active national cemeteries in Kentucky can address VA national cemetery eligibility.

**Refer to the phone number lists in this booklet for contact with these agencies.**

## **Who Is Eligible?**

Eligibility for most federal and state veterans benefits is based on discharge from active military service under other than dishonorable conditions for a minimum period specified by law. Active service generally means full-time service as a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, or as a commissioned officer of the Public Health Service, the Environmental Services Administration or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Completion of at least six years of honorable service in the Selected Reserves (including National Guard) also provides for home-loan benefits for those not otherwise eligible.

Reservists with 20 years of creditable service for retired pay are now eligible for certain benefits and are eligible for burial in national and state cemeteries.

The Department of Defense issues each veteran a Certificate of Release or Discharge From Active Duty form, DD 214, identifying the veteran's service characterization as honorable, general under honorable conditions, under other than honorable conditions, bad conduct or dishonorable.

Honorable and general discharges qualify a veteran for most VA benefits.

Dishonorable and some bad-conduct discharges issued by general courts-martial may preclude VA benefits. VA determines benefit eligibility for veterans with bad conduct discharges and discharges described by military branches as “other than honorable.” After reviewing the facts of each specific case, VA decides whether separation from service was under dishonorable, or other than dishonorable conditions. Veterans in prison and parolees may be eligible for certain VA benefits. VA regional offices can clarify eligibility of prisoners and parolees.

The Department of Defense has certified service in 26 organizations during the periods that include World Wars I and II as active military service. Members of these groups may be eligible for VA benefits if the Defense Department certifies their service and issues a discharge under honorable conditions.

### **WARTIME SERVICE DEFINED**

Certain VA benefits including medical care require wartime service. As specified by law, VA recognizes these war periods:

Mexican Border Period May 9, 1916 - April 5, 1917 for veterans who served in Mexico, on its borders or in adjacent waters.

World War I April 6, 1917 - November 11, 1918; for veterans who served in Russia April 6, 1917 - April 1, 1920, extended through July 1, 1921, for veterans who had at least one day of service between April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1918.

World War II December 7, 1941 - December 31, 1946.

Korean Conflict June 27, 1950 - January 31, 1955.

Vietnam Era August 5, 1964 - May 7, 1975. (Beginning date is February 28, 1961 for those in country prior to August 5, 1964)

Persian Gulf War August 2, 1990 - date to be set by law.



## State and Federal Benefits For Veterans

### Education (State)

Kentucky law provides the following educational benefits to veterans and/or family members:

#### **Veterans May Complete High School Without Tuition**

Veterans may complete high school without payment of tuition fees when service in the armed forces interrupts normal completion.



#### **High School Diplomas for World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War Veterans**

Local boards of education must award high school diplomas to honorably discharged veterans of World War II, Korean Conflict or Vietnam War who served in the Armed Forces of the United States before completing high school.

Send a completed application

<http://veterans.ky.gov/programs.htm>

and a copy (not the original) of the veteran's discharge papers to **KDVA, 1111B Louisville Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.**

We will verify the service and provide written verification to the school district

and the veteran Call us at (502) 564-9203 or toll free at (800) 572-6245 for more information.

### **KY Educational Excellence Scholarship Awards**

Students who attend high school out of state while a parent or guardian is serving in the United States military and who maintain Kentucky as the home of record are qualified for Kentucky educational excellence scholarship awards. Further, students whose parent or guardian is serving in the United States military and who are enrolled in the University of Kentucky Pharmacy program may qualify for Kentucky educational excellence scholarship awards.

### **Kentucky Tuition Waiver Program**

A waiver of tuition is an education benefit provided by the Commonwealth of Kentucky in recognition of military service for certain categories of Kentucky veterans. The tuition waiver is provided for qualifying children, stepchildren, adopted children, spouses, and non-remarried widows & widowers.

An approved tuition waiver means a student may attend any two-year, four-year, or vocational technical school that is operated and funded by the Kentucky Department of Education.

**You may qualify if one of the following is true of the veteran:**

- Died on active duty
- Died as a direct result of a service-connected disability as determined by VA
- Is 100% service-connected disabled
- Is totally disabled (non-service connected) with wartime service
- Is deceased and served during a war-time

**Documentation needed to apply:**

KDVA Form TW-1, Tuition Waiver Application (available at <http://veterans.ky.gov/tuitionwaiver.htm>)

- Birth certificate and/or marriage certificate to prove relationship to veteran
- DD214 or Discharge Certificate to prove eligibility of veteran
- Death certificate (if veteran is deceased)
- Disability Award Letter (either VA or SSA) to prove veteran is totally disabled
- Evidence of Kentucky residency (tax form, driver's license, voter registration, utility bill, etc.)

*In 2007, Kentucky expanded eligibility for the Tuition Waiver Program. Please call KDVA at (800) 928-4012 for more information.*

## **Education (Federal)**

You may be eligible for educational assistance while you pursue approved training if you participated in either the Post-Vietnam Era Veterans' Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) (Chapter 32) or the Montgomery GI Bill (Chapter 30) while on active duty; or, if you had entitlement under the Vietnam Era GI Bill (Chapter 34). You may obtain additional information concerning eligibility by calling your local VA office.

For those who qualify for benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill: Selected Reserve (Chapter 106), TAKE NOTE: benefits will end on the date of separation from the Selected Reserve or 10 years from the date eligibility began, whichever happens first.

Vocational Rehabilitation: For disabled vets, VA will pay tuition and fees, and the cost of books, tools and other program expenses as well as provide a monthly living allowance. Upon completion of the vocational rehabilitation program, VA will assist in finding employment. Apply within 12 years (generally from date of notice of VA disability rating of 20 % or greater) at any VA Office. Veterans with 10% disability may be found eligible if they have a serious employment handicap.

## **Employment**

Kentucky and federal law provide the following employment benefits to veterans and their families:

### **Public Employment:**

#### **Credit For Service in the U.S. Armed Forces**

Provides service credit for eligible Kentucky State Police (KSP) who left KSP to enter the armed services and were immediately re-employed by the KSP. Up to six years of service in the armed forces may be recognized.

#### **State Employment Preference Points for Veterans, Spouses, Widows, Widowers, And Parents**

Current state law provides five hiring preference points for honorably discharged veterans and for former members of the Kentucky National Guard or Reserve; 10 points for veterans with service-connected disabilities and certain spouses of veterans with service-connected disabilities; surviving spouses of certain war veterans and parents who were dependent on a veteran who lost his/her life under honorable conditions while on active duty are entitled to 10 preference points. Preference points are credited towards state employment when testing at the Personnel Cabinet in Frankfort.

**Restoration of Public Employees to Position after Military Duty**

Federal law requires mandatory restoration of public employees to identical or similar positions held prior to leaving to perform military duty. The law is applicable regardless of whether the employee left voluntarily or involuntarily.

**Service Credit for Military Service**

Provides for state employees to obtain service credit, seniority and benefits for time spent in the Armed Forces of the United States under certain conditions.

**Examinations - Ratings - Eligibility**

**Lists** (For employment by cities, counties, and local units) Authorizes an increase of five percentage points on any local or county civil service examination for employment for veterans who have served during a wartime period.

**Credit Under Pension System for Time Spent in Armed Forces**

Authorizes time spent in the armed forces to be credited to police or fire department personnel for retirement purposes under certain conditions.

## **General employment**

### **Restored Employee Discharged for Cause**

Requires employee who has been reinstated following military service, not be discharged from his/her position without cause within one year after restoration.

### **Leave of Absence to Permit Induction in Military Service**

Provides mandatory leave of absence for public employees for the purpose of being inducted in the Armed Forces.

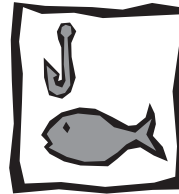
For more information about employment for veterans, see our website at <http://veterans.ky.gov/employment.htm>



## License and Fees Exemptions

### Hunting, Trapping or Fishing License

Authorizes Kentucky veterans with 50% or more service-connected disability to hunt or fish within the state with a special combination license. A small fee may apply.



### Special Military-related License Plates

Kentucky veterans may qualify for special identifying vehicle license plates including:

- Medal of Honor recipients
- Recipients of the Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross or Navy Cross
- Purple Heart recipients
- Former prisoners of war or surviving spouses
- Pearl Harbor attack survivors
- Active and retired members of the Kentucky National Guard
- Disabled veterans
- Women veterans
- Gold Star Mothers, Fathers, and Spouses
- Active, reserve, retired and veteran members of all US Armed Forces (service-specific plate with war period-specific decal)





- Women veterans
- Gold Star Mothers

The special military plate may be combined with a personalized license plate for \$30, of which \$5 goes to the Veterans Program Trust Fund.

### **Gold Star Mothers/Spouse License Plate Program**

In April 2006, Kentucky began issuing license plates honoring Gold Star Mothers – parents whose children have died in military service. In 2008, Kentucky expanded that program to people whose spouse died in military service.

Eligible mothers or spouses may apply for a Gold Star Mother/Spouse plate at their County Clerk's office. All Gold Star Mother plates are personalized. For eligibility criteria, check the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. web site at [www.goldstarmoms.com](http://www.goldstarmoms.com). You do not have to be a member of the organization to qualify for a Gold Star Mother license plate, but you do have to meet their membership criteria.



### **KEEP IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS!!**

Important papers and copies of public documents that you should save and protect for your future use are:

- DD Form 214--Certificate of Release or Discharge
- Certificate of Discharge
- Certificate of Service--Papers associated with active duty, such as orders to and from active duty, vouchers, warrants, commissions, diplomas, citations, etc.
- Social Security information
- Family Records, such as marriage license, birth certificates, death certificates, divorce decree, guardianship or custody evidence, adoption papers, and any other permanent records.

## **Certified Copies of Records - No Fees**

Kentucky law requires:

No fee or compensation shall be allowed or paid for furnishing certificates of birth or death required in support of any claim against the government for compensation, insurance, back pay, or other allowances or benefits for any person who has at any time served as a member of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Air Force of the United States.

Copies of any public records required by VA to be used in determining the eligibility of a person to participate in benefits made available by VA will be provided without charge.



## Other Kentucky Benefits

Kentucky state law also provides:

### **Veterans Loan Program**

Authorizes KDVA to create a program that offers small loans (up to \$10,000 to veterans at below-market interest rates. The law went into effect July 1, 2006; KDVA must promulgate regulations and get them approved before program can begin. KRS 40.650 available at:  
<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/KRS/040-00/650.pdf>

### **Military Retiree Pension Exclusion**

Currently Kentucky tax law allows a military retiree to exclude pension income of up to \$41,110 from adjusted gross income when filing state income tax return. KRS 141.021 available at:  
[www.lrc.ky.gov/KRS/141-00/021.pdf](http://www.lrc.ky.gov/KRS/141-00/021.pdf)

### **Uniform Veterans Guardianship Act**

Provides for appointment and accountability requirements of persons who act as guardians for veterans.

KRS Chapter 388 available at:  
[www.lrc.ky.gov/KRS/388-00/CHAPTER.htm](http://www.lrc.ky.gov/KRS/388-00/CHAPTER.htm). **(Be sure to scroll down to see all the revisions.)**



## **Other Federal VA Benefits**

### **Limited Dental Treatment:**

VA provides this to a very small category of veterans: those who were not provided dental examination and treatment within 90 days of discharge or separation from service. The time limit does not apply to veterans with dental disabilities resulting from combat wounds or service injuries. Apply at any VA office or medical center.

**Disability Compensation:** VA pays compensation for disabilities incurred in or aggravated by military service. There is no time limit. Apply at any VA office.

**Disability Pension:** Wartime veterans with low income, with 90 days or more active military service, at least one day of which was during a wartime period, who are permanently and totally disabled, may be eligible for monthly payments at a level set by Congress. Veterans who entered active duty on or after Sept. 8, 1980, or officers who entered active duty on or after Oct. 16, 1981, may have to meet a longer minimum period of active duty.

**Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI):**

Veterans may convert their Service members' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) to VGLI upon discharge or retirement. VGLI is a five-year nonrenewable term policy. At the end of the five-year term, VGLI may be converted to an individual policy with any participating insurance company, or renewed in the same amount for another five-year term. Veterans must apply for VGLI within 120 days after discharge or up to one year after discharge, if totally disabled.

**GI Insurance:** Life insurance is available for veterans with service-connected disabilities. Veterans who are totally disabled may apply for a waiver of premiums on these policies. Apply within two years (from date of notice of VA disability rating) to any VA office.



*For more information, visit the  
USDVA website,  
<http://www.va.gov>,  
and click on the “benefits” and  
“insurance” links*

**Death Pension:** A survivor's benefit payable to spouses and unmarried children (under 18, helpless children, and those between 18 and 23 if attending a VA approved school) when the veteran's death is not due to service. Income and net worth are factors in determining entitlement. Eligibility is based on the veteran's wartime service. In certain cases, an additional monthly payment is made to spouses who are house bound or in need of aid and attendance of another person.

**Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC):**

Payment may be available for surviving spouse who is not remarried. Unmarried children under 18, helpless children, and those between 18 and 23 if attending a VA approved school are also eligible. The deceased veteran must have died from: (1) a disease or injury incurred or aggravated while on active duty, or (2) in the line of duty, or (3) a veteran who was continuously rated 100% service connected disabled for ten years or more, or so rated five years from the date of military discharge, may be eligible. A surviving spouse who remarries on or after 12/16/03 and on or after attaining age 57 is entitled to continue to receive DIC.

**VA Benefit Guide Available**

The VA comprehensive benefits guide is a 100-page handbook that describes all the benefits provided by VA and an overview of programs and services for veterans provided by other federal agencies. This guide explains how to access many of these benefits online. A printed copy of the book can be purchased by calling the Government Printing Office toll free: (866) 512-1800



## **Health Care**

VA Medical Centers & Community-Based  
Outpatient Clinics  
(Eastern time unless otherwise noted)

**NOTE:** Each of the VA Medical Centers has a patient advocate on staff. Contact the patient advocate if you experience difficulty. Most problems can be resolved through the Patient Advocate Office.

### **Louisville Area**

#### **Louisville VA Medical Center (VISN 9)**

800 Zorn Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40206  
(502) 287-6200  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30  
<http://www.louisville.va.gov/>

#### **New Albany Community Based Outpatient Clinic**

811 Northgate Boulevard  
New Albany, IN 47150  
(502) 287-4100  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30

#### **Shively VA Healthcare Center**

3934 North Dixie Highway  
Shively, KY 40216  
(502) 449-8557  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30

**Women Veterans Clinic**

3934 North Dixie Highway  
Shively, KY 40216  
(502) 287-6000  
Hours: (Calls) M-F, 8:00-4:30  
Appointments: Thursdays 8-4:30

**Fort Knox Veterans  
Primary Care Clinic**

851 Ireland Loop  
Ft. Knox, KY 40121  
(502) 624-9396 or 624-9309  
(502) 624-0241 Fax  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30

**Dupont VA Healthcare Center  
Mental Health Services**

4010 Dupont Circle  
Louisville, KY 40207  
(502) 287-6986  
Hours: Monday - Friday, walk-n,  
8:00-3:30 or by appointment at  
8:00-4:30

**VA Healthcare Center, Newberg**

3430 Newberg Rd.  
Louisville, KY 40218  
(502) 287-6223  
Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00–4:30

### **Northeastern Kentucky**

#### **Huntington, WV VA Medical Center**

1540 Spring Valley Drive  
Huntington, WV 25704  
(304) 429-6741 or (800) 827-8244  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30  
<http://www.huntington.va.gov/>

#### **Prestonsburg VA Medical Clinic**

5230 KY Route 321, Suite 8  
Prestonsburg, KY 41653  
(606) 886-1970  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30

### **Southeastern Kentucky**

#### **Mountain Home VA Medical Center**

Corner of Lamont and Sydney Streets  
P.O. Box 4000  
Mountain Home, TN 37684  
(423) 926-1171  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30  
<http://www.mountainhome.va.gov/>

### **South-Central Kentucky**

#### **Nashville, TN VA Medical Center**

1310 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue, South  
Nashville, TN 37212  
(615) 327-4751  
Contact: Mr. Roland Moore, Director  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30  
(Central Time Zone)  
<http://www.tennesseevalley.va.gov/>

## **Lexington Area**

### **Lexington VA Medical Center Cooper Drive Campus**

1101 Veterans Drive  
Lexington, KY 40502-2236  
(859) 233-4511  
<http://www.lexington.va.gov>

### **Leestown Campus**

2250 Leestown Road  
Lexington, KY 40511  
(859) 233-4511  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30

### **Women Veterans Clinic**

2250 Leestown Road  
Lexington, KY 40511  
(859) 281-4949  
Toll-free (888) 824-3577  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30

### **Morehead CBOC**

333 Beacon Hill,  
Morehead, KY 40352  
(888) 824-3577

### **Hazard VA Outpatient Clinic**

210 Blackgold Blvd., Suite 107  
Hazard, KY 41701  
(606) 436-2350  
Fax (606) 436-2336  
Hours: Monday—Friday, 8:00-4:00

## **Southwestern Kentucky**

### **Memphis, TN VA Medical Center**

1030 Jefferson Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38104  
(901) 523-8990  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30  
(Central Time Zone)

**Gateway Medical Center,  
Clarksville, TN**

Physicians Office Building  
1731 Memorial Drive, Suite 110  
Clarksville, TN 37043  
(931) 221-2171  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 7:30-4:00  
(Central Time Zone)

**Fort Campbell VA Clinic**

Desert Storm Avenue, Bldg 6139  
PO Box 499  
Fort Campbell, KY 42223  
(270) 798-4118  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30  
(Central Time Zone)

**Somerset VA Clinic**

104 Hardin Lane  
Somerset, KY 42503  
(606) 676-0786  
Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00-4:30

**KY Corp Care**

1110 Wilkinson Trace Clinic  
Hartland Medical Plaza  
Bowling Green, KY 42103  
(270) 796-3590  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30  
(Central Time Zone)

## **Northern Kentucky**

### **Cincinnati VA Medical Center (VISN 10)**

3200 Vine Street

Cincinnati, OH 45220

(513) 861-3100

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30

<http://www.cincinnati.va.gov/>

### **Bellevue, KY Community Based Outpatient Clinic**

103 Landmark Drive

Bellevue, KY 41073

(859) 392-3840

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30

### **Florence, KY Community Based Outpatient Clinic**

7711 Ewing Blvd.

Florence, KY 41042

(859) 282-4480

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30

**Western Kentucky** (All Central Time Zone)

**Marion, IL VA Medical Center (VISN 15)**

2401 West Main Street

Marion, IL 62959

(618) 997-5311

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30

**Paducah, KY CBOC**

2620 Perkins Creek Dr.

Paducah, KY 42001

(270) 575-7169, (866)-245-1497

Fax (270) 575-7170

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30

**Evansville, IN Outpatient Clinic**

500 East Walnut Street

Evansville, IN 47713

(812) 465-6202

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:00-4:30

**Hanson, KY Outpatient Clinic**

(located in the Western Kentucky  
Veterans Center)

926 Veterans Drive

Hanson, KY 42413

(270) 322-8019

FAX: (270) 322-8957

Hours: Monday—Friday, 8:00-4:30

**Mayfield CBOC**

1253 Paris Rd., Suite A,

Mayfield, KY 42066

(270) 247-2455

**Owensboro CBOC**

3400 New Hartford Rd.,

Owensboro, KY 42301

(270) 684-5034

### **Patient Representative Office**

If you believe that a VA Medical Center has failed to meet your needs or you wish to complain about service, you should contact the patient representative office at that Medical Center.

Lexington VAMC - (859) 223-4511,  
X-4110

Louisville VAMC - (502) 287-5386  
(direct) or (502) 287-4000, X-55386

Cincinnati, OH VAMC - (513) 475-6527  
(direct line)

Huntington, WV VAMC - (800) 827-8244  
X- 2268 (304) 429-6741

Marion, IL VAMC - (618) 997-5311  
X- 54124 or 55615

Memphis, TN VAMC - (901) 577-7321  
(direct line)

Nashville, TN VAMC - (800) 228-4973 X-  
6218

Mt. Home VAMC, Mountain Home, TN -  
(423) 926-1171, X- 2495 or 3596  
Toll-free (877) 573-3529, X-2495 or 3596



## **State Long-Term Care Facilities**

### **Thomson-Hood Veterans Center**

Opened in August 1991, THVC is a 285-bed, long-term care facility located in Wilmore, KY. It provides skilled nursing care with one wing of 45 beds designated for residents with Alzheimer's disease.

### **Western Kentucky Veterans Center**

Opened 14 March 2002 in Hanson, KY. This 120-bed, full service facility includes 90 semi-private beds and 30 private beds for special care residents, such as those afflicted with Alzheimer's disease.

### **Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center**

Opened 21 March 2002 in Hazard, KY. This 120-bed, full service facility includes 90 semi-private beds and 30 private beds for special care residents, such as those afflicted with Alzheimer's disease.

**Admission Criteria:** Must be a veteran with an other than dishonorable discharge, a resident of Kentucky prior to submitting an application, and satisfy admission criteria to show you are in

Residents are charged a reasonable fee per month based on the veteran's assets and income and in accordance with a published fee schedule.

**Who to Contact?**

If you or a loved one is a veteran and is interested in the kind of care we can provide, please contact one of the following:

<http://veterans.ky.gov/nursinghomes>

**Thomson-Hood Veterans Center**

100 Veterans Drive  
Wilmore, Kentucky 40390  
(859) 858-2814  
Toll free (800) 928-4838  
TTYS (859) 858-3829

**Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center**

200 Veterans Drive  
Hazard, Kentucky 41701  
(606) 435-6196  
(877) 856-0004  
TTYS (606) 435-6203

**Western Kentucky Veterans Center**

926 Veterans Drive  
Hanson, Kentucky 42413  
(270) 322-9087  
(877) 662-0008  
TTYS (270) 322-9752

## **Burial Honors, Veterans Cemeteries**

### **Funeral Honors**

The Department of Defense (DOD) is responsible for providing military funeral honors.

Federal law requires that upon the family's request, every eligible veteran receive a military funeral honors ceremony, to include folding and presenting the United States burial flag and the playing of Taps.

The law defines a military funeral honors detail as consisting of two or more uniformed military persons, with at least one being a member of the veteran's parent service of the armed forces.

The DOD program calls for funeral home directors to request military funeral honors on behalf of the veterans' family.

Kentucky state law now requires funeral directors to ask if the deceased served in the military, and to provide family members with information on burial honors.

Veteran's organizations may assist in providing military funeral honors. When military funeral honors at a veterans cemetery are desired, they are arranged prior to the committal service by the funeral home.

## **Burial in Veterans Cemeteries**

Burial includes a gravesite in any of the National or State Veterans Cemeteries with available space, opening and closing of the grave, perpetual care, a government headstone or marker, a burial flag, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate.

Cremated remains are buried or inurned in veteran cemeteries in the same manner and with the same honors as casketed remains.

Burial benefits available for spouses and dependents buried in a veterans cemetery include burial with the veteran, perpetual care, and the spouse or dependent's name and date of birth and death will be inscribed on the veteran's headstone. While there is no cost for any veteran's interment, state veterans cemeteries may have a minimal cost for spouses and dependents.

## **Headstones and Markers**

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) furnishes upon request, at no charge to the applicant, a government headstone or marker for the grave of any deceased eligible veteran in any cemetery around the world. Spouses and

dependents buried in a private cemetery are not eligible for a government-provided headstone or marker.

You can check on the status of an ordered headstone or marker by calling (800) 697-6947.

### **Presidential Memorial Certificates**

A Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) is an engraved paper certificate, signed by the current President, to honor the memory of an honorably discharged deceased veteran.

Eligible recipients include the deceased veteran's next of kin and loved ones. More than one certificate may be provided. Eligible recipients may apply for a PMC in person at any VA regional office or by U.S. mail. Requests cannot be sent via email. Please be sure to enclose a copy of the veteran's discharge and death certificate.

Please submit copies only, as VA cannot return original documents. For more information call (202) 565-4964.

## **Burial Flags**

The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) provides a U.S. flag at no cost, to drape the casket or accompany the urn of a deceased veteran who served honorably in the U. S. armed forces. It is furnished to honor the memory of a veteran's military service to his or her country. You may get a flag at any VA regional office or U.S. Post Office. Generally, the funeral director will help you.

## **Burial Allowances**

Some veterans may be eligible for VA burial allowances, which are partial reimbursements of an eligible veteran's burial and funeral costs. The reimbursements are generally described as a burial and funeral expense allowance, and/or a plot interment allowance. *Not all veterans are eligible for Burial Allowance*

## **State Veterans Cemeteries**

Kentucky currently operates four State veterans cemeteries to provide interment for veterans and their eligible dependents to commemorate their service. The location for the fifth and final state veterans cemetery in Kentucky is yet to be determined. Our cemeteries complement the existing three National Cemeteries (Camp Nelson, Jessamine County; Lebanon, Marion County; and Mills Springs, Pulaski County) that still have burial space available.

- **Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West**  
opened in March 2004 on U.S. Highway 41A near Hopkinsville.
- **Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central**  
opened in June 2007 on U.S. 31 near Fort Knox.
- **Kentucky Veterans Cemetery - North**  
opened in August 2008 off I-75 in Williamstown in Grant County.
- **Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East** opened in October 2010 off of I-64 in Greenup County
- **Kentucky Veterans Cemetery South East** will be at a location to be determined.

**Eligibility Criteria for Interment in a  
Veterans Cemetery (state and federal)**

- Any member of the Armed Forces who dies on active duty.
- Any person who was a U.S. citizen upon entry in the armed forces of an allied nation in a conflict in which the U.S. had been or was later engaged and who was a U.S. citizen at the time of death.
- Any veteran discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. If the service began after September 7, 1980 (enlisted persons) or October 16, 1981 (officers), the service must have been at least 24 months or the full period of active service to which called.
- Reserve and National Guard members with 20 years qualifying service who are entitled to retire.
- Reserve component members who die from injury or illness incurred while on active duty.
- ROTC members who die from injury or illness connected with attending an authorized camp or cruise.



**For assistance regarding veterans  
cemeteries:**

**KVC-West Cemetery (Hopkinsville)**

5817 Fort Campbell Blvd.  
Hopkinsville, KY 42240  
(270) 889-6106 (800) 928-9622  
FAX: (270) 889-6109  
[http://veterans.ky.gov/cemeteries/  
kvcw.htm](http://veterans.ky.gov/cemeteries/kvcw.htm)

**KVC-Central Cemetery (Radcliff)**

2501 North Dixie Boulevard  
Radcliff, KY 40160  
(502) 351-5115  
FAX: (502) 351-5445  
[http://veterans.ky.gov/cemeteries/  
kvcc.htm](http://veterans.ky.gov/cemeteries/kvcc.htm)

**KVC-North Cemetery (Williamstown)**

205 Eibeck Lane  
Williamstown, KY 41097  
(859) 823-0720  
[http://veterans.ky.gov/cemeteries/  
kvcn.htm](http://veterans.ky.gov/cemeteries/kvcn.htm)

**KVC-North East (Greenup County)**

100 Veterans Memorial Drive  
Greenup County, KY 41143  
(606) 929-5347  
[http://veterans.ky.gov/cemeteries/  
kvcne.htm](http://veterans.ky.gov/cemeteries/kvcne.htm)

**Regarding any state cemetery:**

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs  
State Veterans Cemetery Program  
1111B Louisville Road  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 564-9203 (800) 572-6245  
FAX: (502) 564-9240  
<http://veterans.ky.gov/cemeteries.htm>

**For information regarding National  
Veterans Cemeteries in Kentucky:**

Camp Nelson or  
Mill Springs National Cemetery  
(859) 885-5727

Lebanon National Cemetery  
(502) 893-3852



## **Homeless Veterans Programs**

KDVA strives to ensure that Kentucky's homeless veterans are made aware of the VA benefits for which they are eligible. We work closely with service providers across the state to educate them about homeless veterans' unique needs and the best ways to help homeless veterans .

## **Homeless Veterans Trust Fund**

KDVA recognizes that sometimes timely help with a rent or utilities payment can help a veteran in financial need avoid becoming homeless.

The Homeless Veterans Trust Fund provides financial assistance to veterans to obtain or maintain housing or utilities.

Qualifications for assistance include verification of discharge status, Kentucky residents, and reason for request.

Funds are limited, and Assistance is limited to one in a lifetime. Find out more by calling the Kentucky Homeless Veterans Program at (502) 564-9240 or toll-free at (800) 572-6245.

## **Homeless Veterans Transition Program**

KDVA has partnered with Volunteers of America (VOA) to operate a drug/alcohol treatment/transitional housing program at the Lexington, Kentucky VAMC (Leestown Campus). The 40-bed program began enrolling veterans on April 8, 2005 and by July 2007 had graduated 25 formerly homeless veterans to sober, stable lives in the community.



**For assistance with  
veterans who are homeless:**

Kentucky Homeless Veterans Program  
1111B Louisville Road  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 564-9203 (800) 572-6245  
FAX: (502) 564-9240  
<http://veterans.ky.gov/homeless/>

## **Women Veterans Program**

The mission of the program is to ensure Kentucky's women veterans have equitable access to federal and state veterans' services and benefits. The program provides assistance to women who served in the United States Armed Forces or in forces incorporated as part of the United States Armed Forces and who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

The Women Veterans Coordinator for the Commonwealth collaborates with federal, state, and local agencies on issues related to women veterans; performs outreach to improve awareness of eligibility for services and benefits; assesses the needs of women veterans with respect to benefits and services; makes recommendations to the commissioner to improve benefits and services; and incorporates women veterans' issues in strategic planning concerning benefits and services.

### **For assistance with Women Veterans issues:**

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs  
Attn: Kentucky Women Veterans Coordinator  
321 W. Main St. Suite 390  
Louisville, KY 40202  
(502) 595-4447 (800) 928-4012  
FAX: (502) 595-4448  
[www.veterans.ky.gov/womenvets.htm](http://www.veterans.ky.gov/womenvets.htm)

### **OTHER SERVICES**

**VA Regional Office – Louisville, KY**

(800) 827-1000

**VA Home Loan Eligibility Center**

(888) 244-6711

**VA Loan Office - Roanoke, VA**

(800) 933-5499

**Educational Assistance**

(888) 442-4551

**VA Insurance Program**

(800) 669-8477

**Social Security Administration**

(800) 772-1213

**HEAR NOW - Hearing Aid Bank**

(800) 648-4327

**Office of Servicemen's Group**

**Life Insurance**

(800) 419-1473

**Small Business Administration**

(800) 827-5722

## **IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

### **Military Records & Research Branch (This office can provide a copy of the DD214 for many Kentuckians)**

1121 Louisville Road  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 564-4883  
FAX (502) 564-4437

### **Camp Nelson or Mill Springs National Cemetery**

(859) 885-5727

### **Lebanon National Cemetery**

(502) 893-3852

### **Kentucky Personnel Cabinet**

(for employment services testing)  
(502) 564-7409

### **Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS):**

DFAS Indianapolis (Army)  
(888) 729-2769  
DFAS Denver (Air Force)  
(800) 433-0461  
DFAS Cleveland (Retired Pay)  
(800) 321-1080

**TRICARE** (800) 941-4501  
<http://www.tricareonline.com>

**Veterans Center** - Counseling  
Lexington, KY - (859) 253-0717  
Louisville, KY - (502) 634-1916  
Cincinnati, OH - (513) 763-3500

**Government Printing Office**  
(866) 512-1800 toll free

**For Military IDs**

<b>Department of</b>	<b>(502) 607-1372</b>
<b>Military Affairs,</b>	<b>(502) 607-1660</b>
<b>Frankfort</b>	<b>(502) 607-1907</b>
	<b>(502) 607-1339</b>
	<b>(502) 607-1331</b>

<b>75th Troop Command</b>	<b>(502) 607-2018</b>
	<b>(502) 607-2020</b>
	<b>(502) 607-2017</b>

<b>138th FA Bde,</b>	<b>(502) 607-2424</b>
<b>Lexington</b>	<b>(502) 607-2417</b>

<b>HHC 2/123rd AR BN</b>	<b>(502) 607-2214</b>
<b>Bowling Green</b>	<b>(502) 607-2213</b>

<b>Co B 1/149th IN BN</b>	<b>(502) 607-5464</b>
<b>London</b>	<b>(502) 607-5461</b>

<b>201st EN BN</b>	<b>(502) 607-2114</b>
<b>Ashland</b>	<b>(502) 607-2123</b>

<b>Wendell H. Ford</b>	
<b>Regional Training Ctr</b>	<b>(502) 607-7990</b>
<b>Greenville</b>	<b>(502) 607-7925</b>



**KDVAGram** is a newsletter published quarterly for Kentucky's veterans. If you, or someone you know, would like to receive this publication please send your name and address to:



**KY Department of Veterans Affairs  
Office of the Commissioner  
1111B Louisville Road  
Frankfort, KY 40601**

**...or call us toll  
free:**

**(800) 572-6245**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs  
Field Operations Branch  
321 W. Main St. Suite 390  
Louisville, KY 40202  
Phone : (502) 595-4447  
Toll Free: (800) 928-4012  
FAX : (502) 595-4448



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Web address: [www.veterans.ky.gov](http://www.veterans.ky.gov)